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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 680

By Springer

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Ms. Cheryl James of
Pinewood for meritorious service and heroism.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those persons who through their personal efforts and singular bravery have distinguished themselves as Tennesseans of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, the people of this state have been blessed to have the services of health professionals who sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure the well-being of our citizenry, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to have so many men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Ms. Cheryl James of Pinewood, who has served the citizens of Maury County and the good people of Tennessee as a nurse at Horizon Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, Ms. James has been honored as the 1999 Hickman Civitan Club Citizen of the Year; and

WHEREAS, she received this prestigious award for her estimable efforts to save the life of Robert Taylor who had a heart attack at the Civitan-sponsored Fall Car Show in Maury County in October, 1999; and

WHEREAS, Ms. James she took immediate charge of the situation and administered CPR to revive Mr. Taylor; with assistance from Chris Kimbro, who continued to administer CPR to Mr. Taylor, Cheryl began mouth-to-mouth resuscitation; and

WHEREAS, she was fully aware of the emergency situation and placed her own life at risk by performing the mouth-to-mouth procedure without the aid of a safety mouth-piece, her willingness to become involved most assuredly saved Mr. Taylor's life; and

WHEREAS, this perilous act may be seen as merely the duty of a health care worker, but upon hearing of the absence of the mouth-piece, the attending physician stated, "You saved this man's life but I don't know if I could have done what you did"; and

WHEREAS, Cheryl James' meritorious service in this emergency situation is not the first time she has been on hand to assist others in need; her life-saving work occurred in two other circumstances, once in the hospital lobby, and another at the scene of an automobile accident; and

WHEREAS, at the Civic Club's annual Christmas dinner, Ms. James was presented with the Citizen of the Year Award; Civitan member Gary Jacobs stated, "At the car show that day, we as Civitans saw our motto of 'People Helping People' play out before our eyes. It was something we will remember for a long time"; and

WHEREAS, a thankful Robert Taylor was also among those at the ceremony who joined in the ovations for Ms. James and Mr. Kimbro; and

WHEREAS, Cheryl James epitomizes the spirit and commitment that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, she is most grateful for the love and encouragement she shares with her two children, Angela Luna and Lance Perkins; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge this outstanding woman for her courage and great ability; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Ms. Cheryl James for her meritorious service to the state of Tennessee, salute her inspiring and selfless heroism, and offer our thanks for a job well done.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.